



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

HEADQUARTERS
MULTI-NATIONAL CORPS - IRAQ
BAGHDAD, IRAQ
APO AE 09342

FICI-JFC

*Comm.
DHS
20 Dec 07*

07 DEC 07

MEMORANDUM THRU Commander, Multi-National Force-Iraq, Camp Victory,
Baghdad, Iraq, APO AE 09344

FOR Vice Chief of Staff Army, 200 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-0200

SUBJECT: Electronic Warfare Officer (EWO) Transition

1. I would like to outline our way ahead for transitioning EW to an organic core competency within MNC-I. As many of our units are replaced in the spring and summer of 2008, we intend to remain focused on building Army EW expertise with minimal operational risk. Our belief is that we can establish an Army capability at battalion and brigade levels by September 2008.
2. Our initial focus will be transitioning battalion EWOs. The duties of these Soldiers primarily revolve around supporting and maintaining CREW equipment and relaying the battalion commander's EW requirements to higher echelons. We believe the training course at Fort Huachuca and existing JCCS-1 EW Academy can meet our requirements by next fall. Ultimately, EW manning at battalion level represents the largest payoff (in terms of the number of billets transitioned to Soldiers) with the least amount of operational risk. This will only work if these individuals are assigned EW as their only duty, not an additional duty.
3. We will also focus on the brigade and BCT level. The training course at Fort Sill will provide an initial seed of trained EWOs. Those EWOs will be able to work with our sister-service EWOs to learn how to employ all the capabilities of our joint team. Coupled with our sister service EWOs, we can gain an initial capability by the fall of 2008.
4. Given that it will take several years to grow EW competencies in the Army, EWOs at Division, Corps, and the support organizations are our last priority for transition. The RFF 611 sourcing for EWOs at the Division and Corps levels ensures we are maximizing capabilities offered by our sister-service EWOs and provides time for the Army to build a bench of EW professionals. This will take several years. Additionally, the JCCS-1 organization resulting from RFF 611 provides a commander and staff focused on the EW fight. This focused attention on EW across the area of operations cannot be performed as well by a board or cell.

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5. Over the past several years, we have learned how critical offensive and defensive EW is to our operations. The necessity for a full time, solely dedicated EWO professional cannot be over stated. Developing an Army EW core competency and employing it as part of the joint team can and must be done. Our strategy must be deliberate and based on the Department's ability to generate EWOs with practical experience.

6. Point of contact is BG Mark McDonald, DCG-Fires, DSN 318-822-2342 or james.mcdonald@iraq.centcom.smil.mil.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Odierno', with a stylized flourish at the end.

RAYMOND T. ODIERNO
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding